

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 140-151 and 176-178 are pending in the application, with claim 140 being the independent claim. Claims 116-139 and 152-175 have been withdrawn from further consideration and are hereby cancelled. Applicant has amended claim 140. Applicant has added claims 176-178 as new claims. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 140-151 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,031,977 to Pettus (herein "Pettus"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner contends that each and every element of independent claim 140 is anticipated by Pettus. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Pettus does not teach or suggest customized user interfaces, where "...the user interface is customized with respect to the fixed content stored on the portable storage medium...wherein further, the user station initiates connections to the first remote content source in accordance with the predefined transport tasks...", as recited in amended claim 140.

The Examiner contends that Pettus uses shared libraries, that "...it would have been obvious...that shared libraries would come from different publishers...", and further that:

"...it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention that because the software product takes the object-oriented approach, this ensures that user interface will be customized with the respective application program..."

Shared libraries in Pettus do not include customized application programs. In the Summary, Col. 4, lines 10-39, Pettus describes "...communications directory service...located in each node of the network...", which "...includes shared libraries which store a service object ...", which "...in turn, includes the service exchange address and communication link configuration...". Pettus makes no mention of an application program included as part of the communications directory service.

Further, Col. 12, lines 34-37, Col. 12 line 64-Col. 13, line 3, and Col. 15, lines 19-31, and FIG. 12 of Pettus each describe or show an independent application program running at the user's station. The application program is not downloaded from the server to the user. The communication directory service is "...broadcast...to all other nodes...", as Pettus describes in Col. 15, lines 6-18, but the respective application program is not an element of the communications directory service.

Furthermore, the user station in Pettus does not initiate connection to the "...first remote content source *in accordance with* the predefined transport tasks...", as recited in amended claim 140. Pettus "...provides a simple method to allow an application program to open communications with a desired service...", where "...service objects can be sent directly to the networking service in order to open a communication path

without requiring the applications program to concern itself with the *details of the actual path construction...*", as recited in Pettus, column 10, lines 62-67.

In Pettus, the "...physical directory services are encapsulated in the node objects of the directory tree...", and are "...*completely hidden* from the client application...". In stark contrast, the Applicant initiates connection "...*in accordance with* the predefined transport tasks...", as recited in claim 140, from the plurality of portable storage media.

Claim 140 makes specific mention of a customized application program or user interface, where "...the user interface is customized with respect to the fixed content stored on the portable storage medium...". Pettus does not include an application program as an element of a broadcast or downloadable communications directory service. Claim 140 recites connections initiated "...in accordance with the predefined transport tasks...". Pettus initiates connections independent of the client application. For at least these reasons, independent claim 140 is patentable over Pettus.

Claims 141-151 and 176-178 depend from independent claim 140. For at least the above reasons, and further in view of their own respective features, claims 141-151 and 176-178 are patentable over Pettus. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

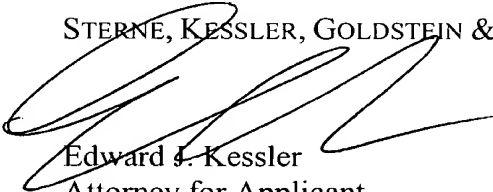
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the

outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Edward J. Kessler
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 25,688

Date: June 12, 2007

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
686487_1.DOC